

**LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PLANNING MEETING
PROCEEDINGS; MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2014**

The La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting was held on Monday, September 08, 2014 in the Administrative Center, Room B410. The County Clerk, Ginny Dankmeyer, took attendance. 27 supervisors were present when Chair Tara Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and those otherwise present, excused or absent are noted in the roll call detail:

District Name	Attendance
1 Richmond, Andrea	Present
2 Geary, Ralph	Present
3 Veenstra, Joe	Present
4 Freedland, Maureen	Present
5 Rosa, Keyla	Present
6 Plesha, Roger	Present
7 Hampson, Sharon	Excused at 06:36 PM
8 Jerome, Peg	Present
9 Caucutt, Nancy	Present
10 Cable, Kim	Present
11 Scheller, Patrick	Present
12 Holtze, Dave	Present
13 Logue, Brian	Present
14 Schroeder, Jeffrey	Present
15 Kruse, Monica	Present
16 Ferries, Dan	Present
17 Giese, Mike	Present
18 Berg, Laurence	Excused
19 Hoffman, Hubert	Present
20 Doyle, Steve	Present
21 Burke, Vicki	Present
22 Barlow, Patrick	Present
23 Nikolay, Matt	Present
24 Pfaff, Leon	Excused
25 Ebert, Ray	Present
26 Hesse, Dan	Present
27 Wehrs, Tina	Present
28 Keil, Robert	Present
29 Johnson, Tara	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

County Board Chair Report - Tara Johnson

- County Board Picnic Reminder – Supervisor Cable reminded the deadline to sign up for the picnic is Thursday, September 11th. If you have not signed up yet, please do so and pay with Supervisor Cable or County Clerk Dankmeyer.
- WCA Conference Update – Chair Johnson asked for all Supervisors who will be attending the WCA conference to meet immediately following the Planning meeting

to discuss breakout sessions. Supervisor Holtze will not be able to attend so any Supervisor wanting to attend in his place should contact the Chair.

- Supervisor Conference Reports
 - Supervisor Hoffman reminded that on September 10th will be the Onalaska Lake District Annual Meeting being held at the Town of Campbell at 7 PM.
 - Supervisor Burke noted that she has a copy of the Badger Coulee Transmission Line Environmental Impact Statement if anyone is interested.
 - Supervisor Cable announced there will be a PRIDE celebration this Saturday in Cameron Park at 10 AM. September 20th and 21st is the Hmong New Year.
 - Supervisor Freedland announced that La Crosse County received an award for the Landfill for Public Education. Supervisor Freedland also attended a national conference in Dallas, Texas where she accepted the award on behalf of the County. There were sessions on disposal of packaging materials, Gundersen Lutheran project, and a session on how to get your County Board to say "yes".
 - Supervisor Schroeder announced the 14th Freedom Honor Flight on September 20th.

Administrator Report - Steve O'Malley

PROCLAMATION SEPTEMBER 2014 - LIBRARIES AND UW EXTENSION MONTH

WHEREAS, research-based educational programs for agricultural producers and professionals, businesses, local governments, communities, families and youth are brought to the residents of La Crosse County; and, **WHEREAS**, research-based educational and library programs identify and respond to specific community needs for education, research and knowledge to improve the quality of life in local communities, to strengthen families, to increase the competitiveness of businesses and agriculture, enhance decision-making in local government, and to develop leadership skills for managing resources and planning for the future; and, **WHEREAS**, libraries provide recreational and educational resources for residents in pursuit of life-long learning; and, **WHEREAS**, UW-Extension programming combines faculty, campus-based specialists, and staff expertise to bring University research to the people of La Crosse County in the areas of Agriculture/Horticulture; Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development; Family Living Education; and 4-H & Youth Development; and, **WHEREAS**, UW-Extension faculty & staff and area library staff are committed to educating the residents of La Crosse County in order to promote life-long learning and provide a more knowledgeable and informed community. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby proclaim the month of September as La Crosse County Libraries and UW- Extension Month, and urges all residents to join in recognizing the valuable contribution of persons dedicated to educating the residents and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities in La Crosse County.

Motion by T. Wehrs/P. Scheller to approve passed on a unanimous voice vote with 27 ayes, 2 excused - L. Berg and L. Pfaff.

- UW Extension Department Head Mary Meehan-Strub gave an update on the history of UW Extension and presented a video on the staff in the UW Extension office, programs offered, community resources and educational resources.
- Library Director Christine McArdle-Rojo gave a background on the library and the 5 branches that the county operates.
- Xcel French Island 2013 Annual Report – Solid Waste Director Hank Koch introduced the representatives from Xcel Energy and spoke about the relationship and the collaboration that is going on between the County and Xcel Energy. Mike Herro, Mark Paitl and Tina Ball presented the 2013 annual report. Xcel Energy's French Island Generating plant employed 31 people in 2013. Its two boilers operated a total of 10,000 hours and including its two combustion turbines, the plant generated over

(84-14/15)

84,500 MWH of electricity, enough to serve nearly 10,000 homes. The plant had zero permit limit exceedances in 2013. There were zero lost-time accidents at the plant in 2013. The plant was in complete compliance with all of its permits including air quality, water quality and solid waste. Many maintenance/upgrade activities occurred throughout the plant in 2013 to increase reliability and efficiency and enhance worker safety.

- Overview of Solid Waste Rates – Solid Waste Director Hank Koch reviewed the rates for the Solid Waste department. There is no need for an increase in 2015 but possibly in 2016. Issues effecting rates is the volume of waste, inflation impact on operating costs, restructuring of debt services, and future capital expenses of the automated scale and landfill entrance and a new cell in 2017 and 2018.
- Update on Economic Development adjacent to Landfill – Schroeder property
 - Administrator O'Malley discussed the opportunity presented to the County regarding the Schroeder property. The County has been approached by the attorney for Mrs. Schroeder with an offer to sell a piece of land for less than appraised value. The purchase should be from the general fund resources and not Solid Waste general fund because the general fund purchased the adjacent land. The County will work with the City of La Crosse to use the existing TIF district to approve infrastructure. The County will provide the land and the City of La Crosse will provide the capital. This will add land to tax base and potential for future large site. In November 2011, the County Board considered a right of first refusal for the Schroeder property for the appraised price of \$740,000. The 2011 proposal would've used Solid Waste funds and tied into the new entrance considerations. The 2015 proposal is primarily tied to economic development with a side benefit of a new landfill entrance along a new roadway.
- 2015 Budget Overview – Administrator O'Malley updated Supervisors on the timeline for the budget process.
 - Budget books will be distributed by the end of September. Committee review of department budgets will be in October. The Executive Committee will review on October 8th and additional meetings in October as needed. The October and November Planning meetings will be dedicated to major issues. Individual budget amendments or changes by Supervisors should be identified as early as possible.
 - The financial position of the County is strong and sales tax revenue is up. There will be no increase in State Revenues except for some Human Service programs. Local property values are among the strongest in Wisconsin. The equalized value is up 3.9%, tax rate decreased 7 cents, 1.8%. Levy increase is limited to net new construction, 1.3% plus any increase in debt payments. The 2015 budget decisions that will have to be made include major capital decision on Lakeview, Administrative Center, and Carroll Heights and also highway funding and debt strategy. Without new highway funding, the debt levy will rise gradually or we'll need to do less work. Currently we are budgeting for a 0% change in health insurance premiums with higher deductibles and HRA contribution, plus an option for a small wage increase, subject to bargaining.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- Administrator O'Malley mentioned the new resolution on the desk for the Executive Committee members which will be discussed at the meeting on Wednesday.

ADJOURN

Motion by H. Hoffman/P. Jerome to adjourn at 8:02 PM passed on a unanimous voice vote with 26 ayes, 3 excused - L. Berg, S. Hampson, and L. Pfaff.

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STATE OF WISCONSIN)

COUNTY OF LA CROSSE)

I, Ginny Dankmeyer , La Crosse County Clerk, in and for the County of La Crosse, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of Proceedings of the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors at the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors Planning Meeting held Monday, September 08, 2014 and that it is the whole thereof. IN WITNESS THEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND AFFIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL THIS DAY 9 OF SEPTEMBER 2014.